



Brownfields 2006 Grant Fact Sheet

La Porte, IN

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of La Porte was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants and a brownfields cleanup grant. Located in northern Indiana, La Porte (population 21,621) has historically been a manufacturing center and has been affected by the recent national trend away from manufacturing. The city has experienced recent setbacks when more than 800 high-wage manufacturing jobs were lost at several employers. It has a high percentage of "sensitive" populations, specifically residents aged 65 and older, and 19 and younger. At least 155 acres of brownfields, located in the center of the city, have had a negative impact on investment in the area, created a physical barrier within the city, and caused visual blight. When brownfields are assessed and cleaned up, they will be used for commercial, retail, residential, and recre-



Assessment Grants

New
2006

\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the City of La Porte for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to create a community-wide brownfields inventory, and perform up to five Phase I and four to five Phase II environmental site assessments. Funds also will be used for ongoing community participation. Petroleum funds will be used to perform the same tasks at petroleum sites.

Cleanup Grant

New
2006

\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of La Porte for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Railroad Spur, a .25-acre segment of former railway between 200 and 402 Truesdell Avenue, which is contaminated with benzene and arsenic. Funds will be used for the installation of an engineered barrier, hotspot removal, and ongoing community participation. When the site is cleaned up, it will be part of a redevelopment plan that will include commercial, retail, residential, and recreational purposes.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of La Porte, IN
219-362-8220

ational purposes. Brownfields redevelopment will create jobs, expand economic development, increase property values, improve the quality of life through the reduction of environmental concerns, and increase open space and recreational opportunities.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.